

QUI

Ginger renders it brisk, and corrects its windiness, and juice of corianders whereof a few drops tinge and add a pleasant quickness.

QUIKSAND. *n. f.* [quick and sand.] Moving sand; unsoft ground.

What is Edward, but a ruthless sea?

What Clarence, but a quicksand of deceit? *Shaksf.*

Undergirding the ship, and fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, they strike sail, and so were driven. *Acts xxvii.*

But when the vessel is on quicksands cast,

The flowing tide does more the sinking haste. *Dryden.*

Trajan, by the adoption of Nerva, seems the tide to her relief, and like another Neptune shoves her off the quicksands.

I have marked out several of the shoals and quicksands of life, in order to keep the unwary from running upon them.

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A man may ditch and quickset three poles a day, where the ditch is three foot wide and two foot deep. *Mortimer.*

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Plant quicksets and transplant fruit trees towards the decares.

Nine in ten of the quickset hedges are ruined for want of skill.

QUICKSIGHTED. *adj.* [quick and sight.] Having a sharp sight.

No body will deem the quicksighted amongst them to have very enlarged views in ethics.

No article of religion hath credit enough for them; and yet these same cautious and quicksighted gentlemen can swallow down this foolish opinion about percipient atoms.

QUICKSIGHTEDNESS. *n. f.* [from quicksighted.] Sharpness of sight.

The ignorance that is in us no more hinders the knowledge that is in others, than the blindness of a mole is an argument against the quicksightedness of an eagle.

QUICKSILVER. *n. f.* [quick and silver; argentum vivum, Lat.]

Quicksilver, called mercury by the chymists, is a naturally fluid mineral, and the heaviest of all known bodies next to gold, and is the more heavy and fluid, as it is more pure; its nature is so homogeneous and simple, that it is a question whether gold itself be more so: it penetrates the parts of all the other metals, renders them brittle, and in part dissolves them: it is wholly volatile in the fire, and may be driven up in vapour by a degree of heat very little greater than that of boiling water: it is the least tenacious of all bodies, and every smaller drop may be again divided by the lightest touch into a multitude of others, and is the most divisible of all bodies: mercury very readily mixes with gold, silver, lead and tin, by chymical operations, but not without difficulty with copper and iron; and it mixes easily with zink and bismuth among the femetals: the specific gravity of pure mercury is to water as 14020 to 1000, and as it is the heaviest of all fluids, it is also the coldest, and when heated the hottest: of the various ores, in which mercury is found, cinnabar is the richest and most valuable, which is extremely heavy, and of a bright and beautiful red colour: native cinnabar is principally found in the mines of Friuli, belonging to the Venetians, in Italy, and some others in Spain, Hungary, and the East Indies: quicksilver is also found sometimes in its pure and fluid state lodged in cavities of hard stones in the cinnabar mines, and the purer ores are chiefly composed of cinnabar in small quantities, mixed with various other substances: the ancients all esteemed quicksilver a poison, nor was it brought into internal use till about two hundred and twenty years ago, which was first occasioned by the shepherds, who ventured to give their sheep to kill worms, and as they received no hurt by it, it was soon concluded, that men might take it safely: in time, the diggers in the mines, when they found it crude, swallowed it in vast quantities, in order to sell it privately, when they had voided it by stool: but too free a use of so powerful a medicine cannot be always without danger: the miners seldom follow their occupation above three or four years, and then die in a most miserable condition; and the artificers, who have much dealing in it, are generally seized with paralytick disorders: however, under proper regulation, it is a most excellent medicine.

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Mercury is very improperly called a metal, for though it has weight and similarity of parts, it is neither dissolvable by fire, malleable nor fixed: it seems to constitute a particular class of fossils, and is rather the mother or basis of all metals, than a metal itself: mercury is of considerable use in gilding, making looking-glasses, in refining gold, and various other mechanical operations besides medicine.

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QUIKSILVERED. *adj.* [from quicksilver.] Overlaid with quicksilver.

Metal is more difficult to polish than glass, and is afterwards very apt to be spoiled by tarnishing, and reflects not so much light as glass quicksilvered over does: I would propound to use instead of the metal a glass ground concave on the fore-side, and as much convex on the backside, and quicksilvered over on the convex side.

QUIDAM. [Latin.] Somebody.

For envy of so many worthy quidams, which catch at the garland, which to you alone is due, you will be persuaded to pluck out of the hateful darkness those so many excellent poems of yours, which lie hid, and bring them forth to eternal light.

QUIDDAN. *n. f.* [quidam, quidam, Lat. quidam, German, a quince.] Marmalade; confection of quinces made with sugar.

QUIDDIT. *n. f.* [corrupted from quiddit, Lat. or from que dit, Fr.] A subtlety; an equivocation. A low word.

Why may not that be the skull of a lawyer? where be his quiddits now? his quillits? his cases? and his tricks? *Shak.*

QUIDDIT. *n. f.* [quiddit, low Latin.]

1. Efficence; that which is a proper answer to the question, quid est? a scholastick term.

He could reduce all things to acts, And knew their natures and abstracts, Where entity and quiddity, The ghosts of dead bodies fly.

2. A trifling nicety; a cavil; a captious question.

Misnomer in our laws, and other quiddities, I leave to the professors of law.

QUIESCENCE. *n. f.* [from quiesco, Lat.] Rest; repose.

Whether the earth move or rest, I undertake not to determine: my work is to prove, that the common inducement to the belief of its quiescence, the testimony of sense, is weak and frivolous.

QUIESCENT. *adj.* [quiescent, Latin.] Restless; not being in motion; not moving; lying at repose.

Though the earth move, its motion must needs be as insensible as if it were quiescent.

The right side, from whence the motion of the body begins, is the active or moving side; but the sinister is the weaker or more quiescent side.

Sight takes in at a greater distance and more variety at once, comprehending also quiescent objects, which bearing does not.

If it be in some part moved, and in some part quiescent, it must needs be a curve line, and so no radius.

Precision or motion cannot be propagated in a fluid in right lines beyond an obstacle which stops part of the motion, but will bend and spread every way into the quiescent medium, which lies beyond the obstacle.

QUIET. *adj.* [quiet, Fr. quietus, Latin.]

1. Still; free from disturbance.

Breaking off the end for want of breath, And flying soft, as down to sleep her laid, She ended all her woe in quiet death.

This life is best, If quiet life is best; sweeter to you, That have a sharper known.

2. Peaceable; not turbulent; not offensive; mild.

Let it be in the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit. *1 Pet.*

3. Still; not in motion.

They laid wait for him, and were quiet all the night.

4. Smooth; not ruffled.

Happy is your grace, That can translate the stubbornness of fortune Into so quiet and so sweet a style.

QUIET. *n. f.* [quiet, Lat.] Rest; repose; tranquillity; freedom from disturbance; peace; security.

They came into Laish unto a people that were at quiet and secure.

There fix'd their arms, and there renew'd their name, And there in quiet rules.

Indulgent quiet, pow'r serene, Mother of joy and love.

TO QUIET. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To calm; to lull; to pacify; to put to rest.

The lowest degree of faith, that can quiet the soul of man, is a firm conviction that God is placable.

2. To still.

Putting together the ideas of moving or quieting corporal motion, joined to substance, we have the idea of an immaterial spirit.

QUIETER. *n. f.* [from quiet.] The person or thing that quiets.

QUIETISM. *n. f.* [from quiet.]

What is called by the poets apathy or dispassion, by the scepticks indisturbance, by the Molinists quietism, by common men peace of conscience, seems all to mean but great tranquillity of mind.

QUIETLY.

QUI

QUIETLY. *adv.* [from quiet.]

1. Calmly: without violent emotion.

Let no man for his own poverty become more oppressing in his bargain, but quietly, modestly and patiently recommend his estate to God, and leave the success to him.

2. Peaceably; without offence.

Although the rebels had behaved themselves quietly and modestly by the way as they went; yet they doubted that would but make them more hungry to fall upon the spoil in the end.

3. At rest; without agitation.

QUIETNESS. *n. f.* [from quiet.]

1. Coolness of temper.

This cruel quietness neither returning to dislike nor proceeding to favour; gracious, but gracious still after one manner.

2. Peace; tranquillity.

Stop effusion of our christian blood, And 'tablish quietness on ev'ry side.

3. Stillness; calmness.

QUIETNESS. *adj.* [from quiet.] Calm; still; undisturbed.

Not in use.

Let the night be calm and quietness, Without tempestuous forms or sad affray.

QUIETUDE. *n. f.* [quietude, Fr. from quiet.] Rest; repose; tranquillity.

From the equal distribution of the phlegmatick humour, the proper alloy of fervent blood, will flow a future quietude and serenity in the affections.

QUILL. *n. f.*

1. The hard and strong feather of the wing, of which pens are made.

Birds have three other hard substances proper to them; the bill, which is of a like matter with the teeth, the shell of the egg, and their quills.

2. The instrument of writing.

I will only touch the duke's own deportment in that island, the proper subject of my quill.

Those lives they fail'd to rescue by their quill, Their muse would make immortal with her quill.

3. Prick or dart of a porcupine.

Near these was the black prince of Monomotapa, by whose side was seen the quill darting porcupine.

4. Reed on which weavers wind their threads.

The presumptuous dandel raily dar'd The goddess' self to challenge to the field, And to compare with her in curious skill.

5. The instrument with which musicians strike their strings.

His flying fingers and harmonious quill Strike sev'n distinguishing notes, and sev'n at once they fill.

QUILLET. *n. f.* [quidlibet, Lat.] Subtlety; nicety; fraudulent distinction.

Why may not that be the skull of a lawyer? where be his quiddits now? his quillits? his cases? and his tricks?

A great foul weighs in the scale of reason, what it is to judge of, rather than dwell with too scrupulous a diligence upon little quillits and niceties.

Why her with love letters and billets, And bait them well for quills and quillits.

QUILT. *n. f.* [couette, Fr. quilts, Dutch; culcita, culcitra, Lat.]

A cover made by stitching one cloth over another with some soft substance between them.

Quilts of roses and spices are nothing so helpful, as to take a cake of new bread, and bedew it with a little sack.

In both tables, the beds were covered with magnificent quilts amongst the richer sort.

She on the quilt links with becoming woe, Wrapt in a gown, for sickness and for show.

TO QUILT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To stitch one cloth upon another with something soft between them.

The sharp steel arriving forcibly On his horse neck before the quilted fell, A bag quilted with bran is very good, but it drieth too much.

Entellus for the strife prepares, Strip'd of his quilted coat, his body bares, Compos'd of mighty bone.

So quilted, that he lay at ease reclin'd. Mayn't I quilt my rope? it galls my neck.

QUINARY. *adj.* [quinarium, Lat.] Consisting of five.

This quinary number of elements ought to have been restrained to the generality of animals and vegetables.

QUINCE. *n. f.* [coin, Fr. quidam, German.]

1. The tree.

The quince tree is of a low stature; the branches are diffused and crooked; the flower and fruit is like that of the pear tree; but, however cultivated, the fruit is sour and astringent, and is covered with a kind of down: of this the species are six.

2. The fruit.

They call for dates and quinces in the pastry.

A quince, in token of fruitfulness, by the laws of Solon, was given to the brides of Athens upon the day of their marriage.

TO QUINCH. *v. n.* [this word seems to be the same with quench, winch and quench.] To stir; to flounce as in resentment or pain.

Below all my soldiers in such fort as I have, that no part of all that realm shall be able to dare to quinch.

QUINCUNXIAL. *adj.* [from quincunx.] Having the form of a quincunx.

Of a pentagonal or quincunxial disposition, Sir Thomas Brown produces several examples in his discourse about the quincunx.

QUINCUNX. *n. f.* [Latin.]

Quincunx order is a plantation of trees, disposed originally in a square, consisting of five trees, one at each corner, and a fifth in the middle, which disposition, repeated again and again, forms a regular grove, wood or wilderness; and, when viewed by an angle of the square or parallelogram, presents equal or parallel alleys.

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